

## **Government & Related websites**

### **[Department for children, schools and families](#)**

New Government department that replaced the Department for Education and Skills and the Department for Trade and Industry.

### **[Directgov](#)**

Information connected to government and other official bodies. Find details about your local area, your MP, how laws are made and most Government publications and information

### **[Local Authorities](#)**

Deputy Prime Minister's site on Local Government. Includes Department of the Transport, Local Government and the Regions. Has information on local government finance including Council Tax. Using the search facilities you will find details on Council Tax rules

### **[Information for Local Government](#)**

The site is designed as a gateway to various central government websites. It provides news releases from departments and agencies, summaries of latest publications and guidance

### **[HM Treasury](#)**

Budget and other information. Some of which relates to benefits

### **[Audit Commission](#)**

Auditors for all local authorities and NHS bodies. Links to Best Value etc.

### **[Local Government Association](#)**

Information on local government and the public sector. Has links to local authority websites as well as information on areas such as Best Value and Housing Benefit. Aimed at Councillors

### **[Local Government Information Unit](#)**

Works with affiliated councils on policy development and support including best practice. Aimed at Councillors but has information on Housing Benefit, Council Tax and Best Value

### **[Local Councils](#)**

Lists the websites of most Local Councils

### **[All Government Press Releases](#)**

Includes DWP press releases

### **[Best Value](#)**

Aspects of Best Value including legislation, implementation and local authority performance

### **Parliamentary Ombudsman**

Deals with maladministration by Government departments including those dealing with benefits. Lists some investigation decisions

### **Local Government Ombudsman**

Includes digest of cases, including Housing Benefit

### **Pensions**

Government site giving information on different pension options including new stakeholder pensions.

Supporting people:

The new system from April 2003 of financially supporting vulnerable people to live independently in the community. Here are several sites that cover supporting people:

#### **Supporting People**

**Communities and Local Government** (search for 'supporting people')  
**SITRA**

Department of Health **Information and guidance on many health issues including:**

Carers and Disabled Childrens Act

Residential and Nursing Care

Older people

Care in the Community .

The NHS plan

NHS Direct

#### **Freedom of Information and Data Protection**

Details and guidance on the Freedom of Information Act and the Data Protection Act

#### **War Veterans**

Information and advice for war veterans including War Disablement Pensions, by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency.

#### **Council Tax Valuation**

All Council Tax bands and other Council Tax information including appeals etc  
Children Leaving Care

#### **Government information and guidance regarding children leaving care.**

Also includes a section on the rules for 16 & 17 year olds in care.

#### **Renewal net**

This government site is for anyone already involved in neighbourhood renewal or wanting to get involved

#### **Hansard**

Reproduces Government speeches, committee reports and minister's answers on benefits and credits

#### **Communities and Local Government**

Government's department, which replaced the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

### **[HMSO - now Office of Public Sector Information](#)**

Links to all Parliamentary offices and all UK legislation since 1988.

### **Health Costs:**

**[Department of Health website](#)**

### **[Parliament](#)**

Everything to do with the UK Parliament; e.g. list of MPs, Hansard, news, bills going through Parliament, Committees and Parliamentary publications. Also **[Early day motions](#)** which are made by MP's to highlight an issue - not necessarily get passed into law

**[FAME](#)** Framework for multi agency working. Linking up professionals.

### **[Pension Protection Fund](#)**

Provides help if an occupational pension scheme fails e.g. employer becomes insolvent. Conditions apply. It is a statutory fund run by a public body, the Board of the Pension Protection Fund. It is accountable to Parliament, through the Secretary of State for the DWP.

### **Parents**

**[Parents Centre](#)**

Family matters, education, behaviour, school holidays .....